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Interpretive Response

January 4, 2006

This Interpretive Response is intended to address questions and concerns about Gastite material that has been subjected to flooding and/or water submersion.

The January 2004 Gastite Design & Installation Guide states the following:

Precautions must be taken to ensure any exposed CSST is not damaged or abused during building construction. All tubing, fittings, and hardware should be stored in a clean, dry location prior to installation.

Gastite material stored for later installation that has been subjected to flooding and/or submersion has likely been exposed to contaminants in the water on both the inner diameter as well as the outer diameter of the corrugated tubing. There are many possible water-borne contaminants that could lead to corrosion in either the stainless steel tubing or the brass fittings. Due to the difficulty of removing water and its contaminants from the inside of corrugated tubing, as well as the unknown nature of the contaminants, this material must not be used.

Gastite material that has been installed prior to being exposed to flood conditions and/or water submersion will also be exposed to unknown contaminants that could lead to corrosion of tubing or fittings. Even if the contaminants do not enter the inside of the tubing in an intact gas piping system, these contaminants can be trapped in fitting crevices and/or between the tubing and the PE jacket. Again, this situation is extremely difficult to effectively clean and remove the contaminants. For this reason, Gastite recommends that installed gas-piping subjected to flooding be replaced.